

**ABSTRACT**

[00032] The fuel filter housing (12) is formed of inlet segment (14) and outlet segment (16) that are telescopically mounted to each other, with a seal (44) positioned between the mounting flanges (38) and (40). Valve (60) is maintained displaced from its valve seat (58) by valve actuator (66), by the valve actuator engaging the perimeter of the filter (34). When the outlet housing segment (16) moves away from inlet housing segment (14), the filter and the valve actuator (66) also move, allowing the valve the close. The amplitude of movement of the valve (60) toward and away from its seat (58) is smaller than the sealed telescopic movement of the housing segments, so that the valve closes before the segments separate, thereby limiting the amount of fuel lost from the fuel filter assembly.